

Najibullah appeals to U.S.

KABUL (R) — Afghan President Najibullah Sunday accused Pakistan of being behind recent rocket and bomb attacks in Kabul and urged the United States to rein-in its ally. In a message to U.S. President George Bush, Najibullah said: "The situation in and around Afghanistan has become critical as a result of U.S. aggression and interference against the Republic of Afghanistan." He accused Pakistan of colluding with guerrillas to launch terrorist attacks on Kabul. A truck packed with explosives blasted one of Kabul's busiest shopping streets on Saturday (see page 2). The official death toll was nine, but United Nations and hospital sources said 20 had died. Najibullah also blamed Pakistan for last Monday's rocket bombardment of Kabul in which at least 20 people died. The president, who earlier this month threatened that Afghan troops might attack Pakistan if it did not stop arming the rebels, said: "These developments have created serious threats to peace and stability in the region and pose a threat of vast conflict in the region. Indeed the future responsibility of any such situation shall solely rest on Pakistan."

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Soviet nuclear sub ablaze

OSLO (R) — Fire broke out on board a Soviet nuclear-powered submarine off northern Norway Sunday, in the third major accident to hit Moscow's underwater fleet in the area in four months. The Norwegian Defence Ministry said the Alpha-class attack submarine had been spotted by a Norwegian vessel, smoke billowing from its conning-tower and under tow on the surface, just before 1500 GMT. "We do not think, from the information that we have so far, that the situation is so dramatic, but we are not sure," said ministry spokesman Erik Sæstad. A Soviet tugboat was towing the vessel, which may also have been carrying nuclear weapons, the ministry said. Other Soviet ships were standing by in the area. The submarine was thought to come from the huge northern fleet, based on the nearby Kola Peninsula around the port of Murmansk. Norway's Foreign Ministry said it was making contact with Moscow, but had no further comment. It was the third accident off Norway involving a Soviet submarine in the past four months. "We are not pleased," Sæstad said.

King hopes for pressure on Israel from its allies

From Rania Atalla in London

IIS MAJESTY King Hussein has expressed hope that Israel's supporters would persuade the Zionist state to drop its objection to an international peace conference on the Middle East.

The King, in an interview with British television aired Saturday night, also reaffirmed his rejection of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's proposal for Palestinian elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. "I do not favour it, in the sense that it is obviously, as it is, totally unacceptable. It denies the destinies everything they aspire to achieve," the King told interviewer Sheena MacDonald on Channel Four's "World This Week" programme.

The King, now on a private visit to Britain where he underwent medical check-ups last week, said: "I believe that the world is moving towards resolving problems wherever they reaten stability in any region of the world and therefore world

peace."

"Our area is a very dangerous area," he said. "The will of all must be for peace, for justice and for better conditions, therefore, in our part of the world for future generations."

The King reiterated the Arab call for an international peace conference on the Middle East and said Israel's supporters and allies should apply pressure on it to drop its objections to the conference.

"I believe that Israel must be persuaded to reveal its position and it's the duty of Israel's friends in the world over to save Israel from Israel, and save all of us as a result."

Referring to Shamir's proposal for Palestinian elections, the King noted that the Israeli prime

minister's own Likud party had made it clear that it would never agree to a Palestinian state and that the 19-month-old Palestinian uprising should be ended before elections could be held.

On the internal Jordanian scene, the King said: "I have looked at the past period and I believe that I personally probably was not as involved as I might have otherwise been in the affairs of Jordan internally I had focused my attention on the Arab World and the world scene."

King Hussein said he would work for completely free and democratic elections for a parliament that would represent the Jordanian people.

In response to a question on whether elections to the Lower House of Parliament would allow opposition political parties to participate, King Hussein said:

"There are some limitations within the election law but as far as I am concerned at this point in time, I certainly would wish and would work for completely free elections, giving all Jordanians a chance to run for the elections and to exercise their right to elect a parliament that represents

them."

He said the decision to resume parliamentary life had been reached before the riots that hit some parts of the Kingdom in mid-April, and that preparations towards this end were currently taking place.

On the subject of the July 1988 disengagement from the West Bank, King Hussein said that breaking legal and administrative ties helped improve relations with the Palestinians.

"It (the decision) contributed towards movement and motion, focussing the attention of the world on the problem where it lies... the problem of Palestinian rights on Palestinian soil," he said.

As a result, the King said, relations with the Palestinians were now based on confidence and trust.

"In our actions we have ceded sovereignty over the West Bank. Sovereignty is for the Palestinians on their national soil," King Hussein said.

He said a Palestinian state could not threaten Jordan in any form or way.

"The question is a question of



Palestinian rights on Palestinian soil. The Palestinians opted for an independent Palestinian state and that is their right," he said.

An independent Palestinian state "could not threaten Jordan in any form or way," he said.

Asked if he thought he would seek a solution to the Palestinian problem, which has existed since four decades, the King said: "This is my dearest wish and all that remains for me is to contribute whatever I can with Jordan... so the future generations in our areas can enjoy a life of justice and peace and dignity."

W. Bank schools said to reopen next Saturday

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies)

— Israel would allow primary schools in the occupied West Bank, which have been closed for most of the uprising, to reopen next Saturday, according to sources quoted by Reuters Sunday.

The head of the West Bank occupation administration, Brigadier-General Shaike Erez, announced the date at a meeting with school administrators, they said.

Middle and high schools would be reopened gradually thereafter if order was maintained, the sources said.

Israel bowed to international pressure, notably from the United States, and agreed last week to reopen schools for 320,000 West Bank pupils who have been deprived of education for more than a year.

In the town of Gan Yavne,

near Ashdod, angry Israelis staged a two-hour general strike in protest at the killing of a local building contractor by two Palestinians last Friday.

Police initially said the Arab teenagers stabbed Zalman Shlein in a dispute over money. They now say the two belonged to an uprising committee in the occupied Gaza Strip and killed him out of nationalist motives.

The local council barred Arabs from entering Gan Yavne for a week.

An Islamic fundamentalist group helping to direct the uprising urged Gazans Sunday to burn Israeli-issued entry permits.

In its latest underground leaflet, the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas), also urged Palestinians to reject firmly the Israeli proposal for elections.

It said activists in the uprising should collect and burn the

magnetised plastic cards which military authorities have started giving to Gazans who want to enter Israel.

The army has issued 20,000 of the cards so far, but Palestinian activists have often gone to Arab homes or mosques to confiscate them.

The leaflet by Hamas, which has a strong following in Gaza, also said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) should halt its dialogue with the United States, which it said was demanding that Palestinians give up their rights.

Hamas vowed that Palestinians would continue their struggle against 22 years of Israeli rule and called for strikes in the occupied territories July 22, in protest at Israel's expulsions of Arabs, and Aug. 4, the start of the uprising's 21st month.

Shamir tries but fails to resolve coalition crisis

TEL AVIV (Agencies)

— Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir failed Sunday to win Labour Party support for a compromise designed to end a cabinet crisis and restore credibility to his faltering proposal for Palestinian elections in the occupied territories.

Vice Premier Shimon Peres, the Labour leader, blocked efforts to end the crisis set off earlier this month when Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc placed hard-line conditions on the plan.

Shamir, 73, tried to call a cabinet vote on whether his initiative was "intact" despite the Likud conditions. But Peres and his associates in the Labour Party objected, participants in the closed-door meeting said.

"This is not enough. There is a need for a formal decision by the government to restore the resolution as it was," Energy Minister Moshe Shahal of Labour said after the cabinet session.

"If that will be done," he said, "there will be a basis to discuss the possibility that the crisis will be solved."

"The security deterioration in the last two days has wreaked tragic destruction in all areas, further compounding the unbearable living conditions of the people," Peres said.

He appealed to the Arab League to intensify its efforts to stop the fighting.

The electricity authority has said its power-generating plants in east Beirut have all run out of fuel and stopped functioning since Friday. Lack of electricity brought water distribution stations to a standstill in Beirut and the Christian heartland to the north.

Peres said only reaffirmation of

the original plan, devoid of the hardline conditions attached to it by Likud, could restore the credibility of the Israeli initiative.

Ministers said Shamir, seeking to resolve a government crisis, promised the cabinet that he would put forward a formula reconfirming the plan for a vote at its next meeting.

Asked what would satisfy Labour, Peres told reporters after meeting Shamir: "A very clear decision without contradiction that will return us to the previous situation."

He said this should settle contradictions between the original plan and Likud's insistence that the 19-month-old Palestinian uprising must be crushed before the elections are held and that Arab Jerusalem Palestinians must be banned from voting.

Last Monday Labour leaders recommended leaving the government, saying Likud's conditions torpedoed the initiative.

But they have since sought a face-saving compromise amid signs that an increasingly right-wing public did not want fresh Israeli elections.

Interior Minister Arye Deri of the Shas Religious party, who mediated in the crisis, said he asked Shamir to assure the cabinet that there were no additions to the plan.

"The prime minister's answer was firm, very clearly, that there

is no request for additions, not to add, not to touch (the plan) and that only the government decision is binding," Deri said.

He said Shamir promised to find a suitable formula to put to a vote at the next cabinet meeting.

Right-wing Deputy Premier David Levy, one of three Likud rebels who forced the hardline constraints on Shamir, said he reminded the prime minister that all Likud ministers were bound by party decisions.

"If someone thinks that some sort of exercises will cut us off from our position, he will be disappointed," Levy warned.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker said Saturday he had been assured by Shamir that the election plan had not changed.

"The last word we've heard... is from Yitzhak Shamir himself saying that the proposal, his proposal, has not changed one iota," Baker said in a U.S. television interview.

Interviewed in Paris during the economic summit Baker said that Shamir's assurance was the reason Baker had held off sending an envoy to Israel to clarify Shamir's position.

Baker said he was seeking European leaders' support for the Israeli election plan at the Paris summit and had told Egyptian leaders Friday he was convinced the plan was unchanged.

Gorbachev steals show at Western summit

PARIS (Agencies)

— Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev Sunday grabbed centre-stage of the world economic summit, a meeting he did not attend.

The Kremlin leader's unprecedented appeal for economic cooperation with the West prompted U.S. President George Bush to hint that Moscow might eventually be admitted to the capitalist world's most high-powered body, the Group of Seven (G-7).

The seven leaders at the three-day summit had just announced a package of aid for two of the Soviet Union's East bloc allies Saturday when Gorbachev delivered his own appeal.

"M.S. Gorbachev and R. Gandhi noted the similarity of positions taken by the Soviet Union and India with regard to recent events in China," the agency said.

It spoke of the two leaders' "determination to further develop good neighbourly relations with that great country."

Gandhi and Gorbachev, who hold frequent meetings under the terms of a 1971 friendship treaty, reiterated their common approach towards a peace settlement in Afghanistan and examined cooperation in several areas, including the military field.

Moscow talks

In Moscow Gandhi and Gorbachev discussed world affairs and economic projects at a Kremlin meeting on Saturday, TASS said.

The two leaders met for four hours with their foreign ministers and ambassadors, and then spoke privately, the agency

in action to support Bangladesh to solve catastrophic flood problem.

— All countries urge to counter drug production, reduce drug taking and counter trafficking.

— Strengthen the role of the United Nations in the war against drugs and set up a financial task force to combat drug money laundering.

— European Community asked to organise a meeting of interested countries to support reforms in Poland and Hungary.

— G-7 will be "flexible and forthcoming" in efforts to help Poland reschedule its \$39-billion foreign debt.

— Japanese Prime Minister Sosuke Uno said the leaders' stand condemning Chinese government repression reflects Japan's views that China should be harshly criticised but not punished to such an extent that it is totally isolated.

"It was a splendid summit," Uno told reporters. "It was my first summit and I was able to talk to all leaders gathered here. We were able to trade views satisfactorily."

Bush said the leaders had spent "a lot of time" discussing the letter from Gorbachev.

"We consider the letter to be a constructive and innovative gesture which we welcome and will take very seriously," said Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, adding that he would discuss it with Gorbachev when he visits Moscow next November.

— Urgent need for international

Indo-Pak rapprochement takes another step

ISLAMABAD (Agencies)

— The first step in what Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto called a "long journey" was taken Sunday when her Indian counterpart Rajiv Gandhi arrived in Islamabad for a day of talks.

They said at least one person was killed and 27 were wounded in the bombardment from dusk Saturday to dawn Sunday which left dozens of cars smouldering in the streets of Beirut's both sectors.

The new casualties raised the overall toll to 418 dead and 1,673 injured since the current round of Lebanon's civil war broke out March 8 between army commander Michel Aoun's troops and Syrian-backed Lebanese militiamen.

Tens of thousands of residents spent the night in basements and bomb shelters as shells and rockets rained down on the city,

which has been without electricity and water for 48 hours.

There was a two-hour lull at daybreak, allowing people to venture out to supermarkets and bakeries for food supplies. The shelling resumed at mid-morning.

"It's almost two months since we were pounded with such intensity," said a resident of Sin Al Fil in east Beirut. Refusing to be named, he said 40 rockets hit his neighbourhood inside a minute.

The duels began with a barrage on the coastline of the Christian-dominated enclave to block shipments of arms supplies from reaching Aoun's forces.

Police said Aoun's gunners struck back with 155-mm howitzers, targeting batteries along west Beirut's seaside districts of Ain Mreisseh, Raouche and Ramlet Al Baida.

The shelling then steadily escalated into random bombard-

ments of residential neighbourhoods," said a police spokesman who cannot be named under standing regulations.

Scores of high-velocity shells crashed near the ports of Jounieh and Byblos north of Beirut, where four cargo ships and a tanker were unloading their cargoes after evading prowling Syrian warships blocking the enclave.

The battles were the fiercest since the Arab League mediated a ceasefire on May 11 although Syrian troops and Aoun's soldiers have fought sporadic artillery battles for weeks.

The heads of state of Morocco, Algiers and Saudi Arabia have been trying to end Lebanon's crisis and their foreign ministers have been shuttling between Syria and Iraq in a bid to bring peace to the country.

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'Historic, unprecedented' phenomenon emerging

U.N. assured of continued Sudan relief despite conflict

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Since the turn of the century, civilian casualties in armed conflicts have been on the increase — accounting for almost 90 per cent of deaths and injuries — but a slow, steady phenomenon is emerging where human considerations take priority over military interests; the most pronounced signs of the trend are visible in Sudan, where warring parties have undertaken that famine- and drought-relief efforts will continue despite a six-year-old civil war.

Relief operations have survived the July 7 military coup in Sudan, and the transition of power from a civilian government to a military regime in Khartoum will not bring an end to ongoing relief efforts in the country; and, if anything, the new regime is anxious to ensure that relief operations continue without any hindrance, according to Farid Rahman, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) representative in Khartoum.

Rahman, who visited the UNICEF regional office in Amman last week, recalled that the leader of the Sudanese regime, Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Al Bashir, who took the reins of power after toppling the civilian government of Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi, had reassured the U.N. of his cooperation with relief efforts in southern Sudan, where a rebel movement has been fighting the government since 1984.

Rahman said UNICEF Executive Director James Grant and Regional Director Richard Reid, who happened to be in Khartoum on the day of the coup were summoned by Bashir less than 24 hours after the apparently bloodless military rebellion.

"The general assured Mr. Grant, a special representative of the U.N. secretary general and head of Operation Lifeline Sudan, that nothing would be done to disrupt relief efforts," Rahman told the Jordan Times

in an interview. "Operation Lifeline Sudan," a U.N.-led effort to stockpile food and relief supplies for about two million famine-stricken Sudanese, involves moving provisions to needy areas before seasonal rains hit the region. The operation, which was launched after the U.N. mediated a tacit safe-conduct agreement between the Mahdi government and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) in March, has been going ahead as planned without any major problems, according to Rahman.

"Almost 70 per cent of the targeted supplies are already in place and the operation is going ahead smoothly," he said. "Fortunately, rains were also delayed and this has helped our efforts."

Complex operation

"The relief effort is a complex operation with many activities going on at the same time," he explained. "There are airplanes bringing in relief from Khartoum into the south; airplanes moving in from Kenya to the north; others moving in from Uganda; there are trains moving from Hogla and Baba Mousa into Aweil in the south; there are barges moving in from the north. Then there is the whole distribution network."

The UNICEF official expressed confidence that a repeat of last year's disaster — when an estimated 250,000 Sudanese died of starvation, malnutrition and diseases — has been averted by Operation Lifeline Sudan.

"We have prepositioned food and supplies in key locations. We do not foresee any recurrence of what happened last year," he said. "The only thing that is worrying us is that there could be isolated pockets where people need help," he said, adding that efforts are under way to pinpoint such areas.

Rahman also said that during Bashir's meeting with Grant and Reid, the general "expressed concern over some areas where relief was not reached

and urged that we give attention to these areas."

Bashir's anxiety over relief efforts and his determination to honour the Mahdi-SPLA accord on safe conduct for relief convoys is the latest manifestation of a much-welcome trend in regional conflicts, according to Rahman.

Historic cooperation

"What is happening in Sudan is historic and unprecedented," he said. "In recent history, we do not have an example where parties to a conflict have agreed to give humanitarian values priority over the conflict."

He pointed out that Operation Lifeline Sudan could not have materialised without such agreement and the threat of death by starvation would have been very real for hundreds of thousands of people.

"It can be described as a model which other countries can follow, especially in these times where there are so many regional conflicts where civilians pay a very heavy price," Rahman said.

"The nature of conflicts and their impact on civilians are changing," he said. "During World War I, the casualties were estimated at 90 per cent soldiers and 10 per cent civilians."

"In World War II, the proportion grew to 50-50 — including Hiroshima and Nagasaki (where the U.S. used the first-ever atomic bombs in a military conflict) — and the figures have grown to 90 per cent civilian and 10 per cent military."

"So there is a need for a new ethic, a new convention which would protect civilians from the devastating effects of war" and this is what, by design or coincidence, happens to be taking shape in Sudan, according to the UNICEF official.

Rahman recalled that UNICEF had managed to arrange limited truces between government forces and rebels in El Salvador in 1983 and between rival militia forces in Lebanon in 1987, to conduct national vaccination programmes for children. But, the marked difference in the case of Sudan is that "the arrangement is not limited to one or two ways," he said. "The agreement is based on a definite plan of action over months and it has been honoured without any hitch."

In essence, the true agreement permitting Operation Lifeline Sudan stipulates that neither the government forces nor the rebels will interfere with movement of relief supplies, whether through government-controlled territories or SPLA-held areas and regardless of the intended beneficiaries of the aid.

"Of course, as we found out, there are forces (in both areas) — brigands or bandits or whatever you want to call them — which have somehow attempted to attack the relief convoys," said Rahman, who assumed his post in Khartoum late last year. "Now, there is a tacit undertaking that the government will offer (armed) escorts for the convoys through government-held areas and that the SPLA will offer protection for them through rebel-held territories."

According to the UNICEF official, at least two attacks made on relief convoys passing through the southern heartland of Sudan were staged by the nomadic "topazia" tribe, infamous for cattle-rustling and lawlessness. In another incident, hundreds of hungry villagers plundered an 18-wagon train carrying relief supplies with help from "SPLA mavericks." Rahman was reluctant to discuss the issue further. Obviously, what is important to the U.N. is that vital supplies did reach the needy, through plunder of otherwise.

The cooperation between Khartoum and the SPLA has created "a powerful force, a dynamic towards peace," said Rahman. "Putting humanitarian concerns first, the periods of ceasefire, and corridors of tranquillity all contribute to the peace effort in the country," he said.

Rahman stressed that Operation Lifeline Sudan, estimated to cost around \$200 million, is "comprehensive, total effort involving six or seven parties — the government, the rebel movement, the donor states, the entire U.N. system and structure, the government's Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Agency, non-governmental agencies and last, but not the least, the International Committee of the Red Cross."

UNICEF estimates that the operation will help some 400,000 people on the north-south transition zone, 800,000 in areas directly under SPLA control and another 400,000 in areas involved in direct military conflicts between the government and rebels.

Civilians have been paying highest price in regional conflicts, but what is emerging in Sudan is a trend to hold humanitarian interests — unassisted relief operations for famine and drought victims — above everything else.

How long will the cycle of natural disasters and international relief handouts continue in Sudan? Are there any long-term plans to come up with a comprehensive solution to the problem or at least to alleviate the gravity of natural calamities such as drought and famine?

"Of course, it is one of the important aspects of our relief efforts," said Rahman. "The supplies we distribute include seeds and agricultural implements in a bid to encourage young men and women into farming and self-reliance. But it is a long-term process and we are only in its initial stages."

As the U.S. is concerned, the only valid interlocutor seems to be the PLO, and that of course creates formidable obstacles for us," he said.

His remarks appeared to strike back at U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, who questioned Israel's sincerity in proposing Palestinian elections after Shamir's right-wing Likud party attached hardline constraints to the initiative.

Under the proposal, the 1.7 million Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip would elect negotiators to discuss limited self-rule with Israel. The plan, backed by the United States, has met Arab scepticism, especially from the PLO which engaged Washington in dialogue last December after Chairman Yasser Arafat recognised Israel's right to exist and renounced terrorism.

"The Palestinians are no fools," Ben-Aharon said. They could see that the United States was continuing talks with the PLO in disregard of what he called "terror" attacks against Israel.

For Palestinians "the inevitable conclusion is that, at least as far

as the U.S. is concerned, the only valid interlocutor seems to be the PLO, and that of course creates formidable obstacles for us," he said.

Ben-Aharon said Shamir had met secretly with unidentified Palestinians from the occupied territories to try to win support for the elections proposal and to persuade them that the PLO cannot solve their problems.

Asked about Washington's reaction to Israel's refusal, he said: "They say they will not press us to talk with the PLO. But we are just closing our eyes to reality."

Ben-Aharon is regarded as Shamir's most hardline adviser.

Ben-Aharon declined to name the Palestinians Shamir met but he said they came from a wide spectrum of opinion among people of stature.

Asked if they included PLO supporters, he said: "As wide a spectrum as possible. We don't want to go into details. We don't really need to have anyone parrot the PLO position because that is clearly available and evident."

Ben-Aharon said a proposed U.S. mission to Israel this week to test Israel's sincerity about the elections proposal might have been put off to avoid giving the

impression that Washington was interfering in Israeli politics.

Israel's ruling Likud and Labour parties, at odds over the conditions added by Likud to the plan, appeared Sunday to be edging towards a compromise.

Ben-Aharon insisted that Israel had never spoken to the PLO and never would.

Asked about Washington's reaction to Israel's refusal, he said: "They say they will not press us to talk with the PLO. But we are just closing our eyes to reality."

When the U.S. is talking to the PLO, it is interpreted by the world as something which is tacitly accepted by Israel, which is not the fact."

Ben-Aharon said Arab states maintained belligerence against Israel despite assurances by west European governments.

"European leaders told the prime minister in his last tour they are convinced there is a change of heart on the part of what one of the leaders defined as the good Arabs or what one may define as the moderate Arabs," he said.

"We find that there is nothing in practice to show that this is indeed the case," he contended.

Somalia calm after violence

NAIROBI (Agencies) — Somalia security forces have been rounding up people in the capital city Mogadishu during the two days since clashes with Muslim worshippers left nearly two dozen dead, residents said Sunday.

The government appeared to be using the security forces to prevent a repeat of Friday's violence when Somal police say 23 people were killed and 59 were wounded, according to residents interviewed by telephone.

The residents, who spoke on condition they not be identified, said they did not know how many people had been picked up, who or why.

Mogadishu, with the exception of the detentions, had returned to normal Sunday, they said. None of them reported hearing the occasional gunfire that continued into the early hours Sunday.

They did not know whether a dusk-to-dawn curfew imposed Friday and Saturday would continue.

The president told the armed forces to stop "firing at random" as this could alarm people and he urged Somalis not to rush out of doors if they heard shooting.

Mogadishu Radio Saturday broadcast a statement from the police command giving the casualty toll in the clashes as 23 dead and 59 wounded. It said the troubles were now over.

Siad Barre, in a radio broadcast, said the clashes were caused by a "few people who are nothing but bandits."

The president told the armed forces to stop "firing at random" as this could alarm people and he urged Somalis not to rush out of doors if they heard shooting.

"We hope that inasmuch as the events were confined to a small area, there will be no more problems."

Meanwhile, the Somali people should remain vigilant and not allow themselves to be worried by such insignificant noises ... do not take it as anything serious, because it is actually nothing."

Siad Barre, who has ruled Somalia for the last 20 years, has come under growing pressure since the rebel Somali National Movement stepped up its guerrilla war in the north last year.

Danish woman describes interrogation in Israel

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — A Danish woman interrogated in Israel in an alleged murder plot said Saturday she was coerced to sign a confession in a language she did not understand.

Ulla Lyngby was expelled and returned to Denmark Friday. The Israeli ambassador to Copenhagen said she had admitted gathering intelligence for a planned attack against Denmark's chief rabbi.

Lyngby was reported to have known nothing about the case until he returned Thursday from a two-week visit to Israel.

Israel Friday expelled Lyngby who was arrested at Ben Gurion airport on suspicion of trying to smuggle money to Palestinians involved in the 19-month-old uprising.

Lyngby, 25, who is pregnant and lives with a Palestinian in Denmark, denied in an interview with Ritzau, the Danish national news agency, having ever worked for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) or smuggled money into Israel to fund anti-Israel activities.

She was held after Israeli airport security officials said cash was in her luggage. Some press reports here said it was apparently to help finance the uprising.

Due to Israeli censorship neither Israel nor Denmark has been able to confirm the exact charges against Lyngby.

Israel: Ties with U.S. near 'moment of truth'

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's relations with the United States are approaching "a moment of truth" over Washington's deepening ties with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the director of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's office said Sunday.

Director-general Yossi Ben-Aharon said in an interview with Reuters that the Bush administration was risking its credibility and was destroying an Israeli initiative by continuing to talk to the PLO.

It was the harshest statement of concern about ties with the United States, Israel's best friend, in the seven months since Washington began a dialogue with the PLO which engaged Washington in dialogue last December after Chairman Yasser Arafat recognised Israel's right to exist and renounced terrorism.

"We are reaching a moment of truth because it has to be a decision by the parties concerned, primarily by the United States, whether to continue the dialogue with the PLO or to proceed with moving the Israeli initiative to fruition. The two are mutually exclusive," Ben-Aharon said.

For Palestinians "the inevitable conclusion is that, at least as far

as the U.S. is concerned, the only valid interlocutor seems to be the PLO, and that of course creates formidable obstacles for us," he said.

Ben-Aharon said Shamir had met secretly with unidentified Palestinians from the occupied territories to try to win support for the elections proposal and to persuade them that the PLO cannot solve their problems.

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Asked if they included PLO supporters, he said: "As wide a spectrum as possible. We don't want to go into details. We don't really need to have anyone parrot the PLO position because that is clearly available and evident."

Ben-Aharon said a proposed U.S. mission to Israel this week to test Israel's sincerity about the elections proposal might have been put off to avoid giving the

impression that Washington was interfering in Israeli politics.

Israel's ruling Likud and Labour parties, at odds over the conditions added by Likud to the plan, appeared Sunday to be edging towards a compromise.

Ben-Aharon insisted that Israel had never spoken to the PLO and never would.

Asked about Washington's reaction to Israel's refusal, he said: "They say they will not press us to talk with the PLO. But we are just closing our eyes to reality."

When the U.S. is talking to the PLO, it is interpreted by the world as something which is tacitly accepted by Israel, which is not the fact."

Ben-Aharon said Arab states maintained belligerence against Israel despite assurances by west European governments.

"European leaders told the prime minister in his last tour they are convinced there is a change of heart on the part of what one of the leaders defined as the good Arabs or what one may define as the moderate Arabs," he said.

"We find that there is nothing in practice to show that this is indeed the case," he contended.

As the U.S. is concerned, the only valid interlocutor seems to be the PLO, and that of course creates formidable obstacles for us," he said.

Ben-Aharon said Shamir had met secretly with unidentified Palestinians from the occupied territories to try to win support for the elections proposal and to persuade them that the P

Regent cables good wishes to Iraqi, French leaders

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, has sent a cable of good wishes to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on Iraq's National Day.

In the cable the Regent wished the Iraqi president continued health and happiness and further progress and prosperity for the Iraqi people.

The Regent earlier sent a cable of good wishes to French President Francois Mitterrand on his country's National Day, following 20 years since the French revolution.

The Regent congratulated Mitterrand on the anniversary and said that the French revolution of 1789 carried the message of fraternity, liberty and equality to all the peoples of the world, and served as a beacon showing the way for a better future.

"The French revolution carried a message which left its mark in history and human culture, and paved the way for the protection of human rights" around the world, Prince Hassan said in his cable.

Jordan, the Regent said, "appreciates your wise policies, marked with Open-mindedness, and France's leading role in unifying the nations of Europe to create a great power that would establish stability and lead the world towards further progress."



HRH Crown Prince Hassan

Jordan celebrates Eid Al Adha

AMMAN (J.T.) — Government departments and public organisations Monday resume work after a five-day holiday on Eid Al Adha (Feast of Sacrifice) that marked the end of the pilgrimage season in Mecca.

Eid Al Adha which fell on Thursday was celebrated in Jordan with religious ceremonies held in various mosques around the country.

The celebration was held at Al Hussein Mosque downtown Amman and attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, members of the royal family, Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, ministers and other dignitaries as well as a large crowd of worshippers.

The preacher at the ceremony, Dr. Ibrahim Keilani, paid tribute to the wise leadership of His Majesty King Hussein and called for closer national unity in the face of common challenges.

Jordan is currently witnessing continued economic, political and psychological pressure to capitulation and give in to the Israeli enemy's demands and dictates," Dr. Keilani noted.

He said that Jordan "will resist all pressure and will continue to march towards progress and development."

The preacher sent greetings to the Palestinian people who are now involved in a struggle for freedom from occupation.

Their Royal Highnesses Prince Faisal Ibn Al Hussein and Prince Ghazi Ibn Mohammad were among the worshippers who, after the prayers, met with the Regent to express their good wishes.

Prince Hassan received telephone calls from heads of state of Egypt, Iraq, and North Yemen enquiring about King Hussein's health and expressing congratulations on Eid Al Adha.

Similar telephone calls also came from the heads of the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Syria.

wreaths and recited verses from the Holy Koran.

In Aqaba, His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein attended Eid Al Adha prayers at a local mosque along with worshippers and local officials.

At a reception held at Al Hussein Youth City in Amman, the Regent, met with senior officers of the Armed Forces, the Intelligence Service, the Public Security Department and Civil Defence Departments who expressed their good wishes on Eid Al Adha.

The Royal Court received cables of good wishes from Jordanian citizens, officials and heads of various organisations. Cables also came from heads of state of Arab, Muslim and friendly nations.

Prince Hassan received telephone calls from heads of state of Egypt, Iraq, and North Yemen enquiring about King Hussein's health and expressing congratulations on Eid Al Adha.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, receiving greetings Sunday on the occasion of Eid Al Adha from officers of the Armed Forces at the Al Hussein Youth City.

Bonn to support Jordan's private sector projects

BONN (Petra, J.T.) — The West German government has expressed its readiness to allocate loans that will finance Jordan's private sector projects and help the Agricultural Credit Corporation to promote its operations in the rural areas of Jordan, according to Minister of Planning Ziyad Fariz.

The minister made the statement here during his visit to take part in the Jordanian-West German Joint Economic Committee meetings which opened last Monday.

The Joint Committee discussed two main issues: Bonn's development loans to Jordan, which now stand at 35 million marks annually, and technical and economic assistance to the Kingdom, which range between 12 to 14 million marks annually, the minister noted in a statement to the Middle East News Agency (MENA).

The West German side, he said, has displayed a great degree of understanding of Jordan's economic reform programme. Bonn has also expressed willingness to help Jordan carry out a development project in the Zarqa River basin that is being financed by West German and Arab financial organisations.

U.N. official praises Jordan's anti-drug operations

By Marizan M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Despite geographic barriers, difficulties in monitoring its vast desert terrain and increased activities by drug traffickers, Jordan's anti-drug operations are highly praiseworthy and the Kingdom's enforcement authorities are doing an excellent job, according to the general secretary of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC).

Giuseppe Di Gennaro, who was here on a four-day working visit earlier last week for a close, on-the-spot review of Jordan's activities in combating the drug

menace, said the Kingdom was doing "a great service to the international community" by effectively enforcing and maintaining its battle against narcotics trafficking through its territory.

The UNFDAC gives advice, funding or equipment only upon the request of a given government.

Gennaro, who reviewed the activities of the Jordanian drug enforcement officials, noted that the Arab World has been plagued recently by a rapid increase of consumption, production, processing and trafficking of drugs.

He said, "are of serious detriment to the countries' political, social, economic, democratic and cultural well-being."

Gennaro pointed out that the major producer of hashish and opium derivatives (heroin), Lebanon, exports up to 800 tonnes of hashish per year. "More than half of that goes to Egypt, where you have the highest estimated consumption of drugs in the Arab World."

The assistant-secretary-general pointed out that although Jordan

Bashir receives women's delegation

AMMAN (J.T.) — President of the General Federation of Jordanian Women Haifa Al Bashir Saturday received a women's delegation representing university graduates, Rotarians and Armenian ladies and discussed with them the forthcoming parliamentary election in Jordan and the women's role in this process.

Bashir called on them to register their names on the election lists during the period Aug. 1 to Aug. 15, 1989.

Jordan to have 2 private universities

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Council of Higher Education (CHE) has given its consent for the establishment of two private universities in Jordan, according to Al Ra'i Arabic daily.

The paper quoted Minister of Higher Education Nasseruddin Al Assad as saying that one of the two universities to be called the Amman Private University will be established in the Balqa region while the other, to be called the University of Applied Sciences, will be established in the Amman area.

The minister, who is also the council's chairman said that the decision was made following a thorough study of several applications made by a number of groups wishing to set up universities in the Kingdom.

According to the paper, the University of Applied Sciences has already been registered with the Ministry of Industry and Trade as a share-holding company with a JD 10 million capital of which 60 per cent has been paid.

Most of the 800 shareholders in the new university, the report said, are Jordanian expatriates who will be sending their children to Jordan for higher studies following their secondary education abroad.

The paper quoted coordinators of the new university as saying that it will open its doors for students in the second half of the 1990-1991 academic year.

The other university is to be set up at the "Saru" district, 10 kilometres west of Amman, according to the report which did not disclose a date for its commencement.

"With the establishment of the two universities, Jordan will have six universities."

The report said that the council will decide on the number of students to be accepted by the existing four universities once the results of the Tawjih examinations are announced, most likely before the end of July.

The paper quoted Minister of Education Abdallah Nsour as saying that marking of the papers were still going on before Eid Al Adha feast.

The paper said that registration for the continuing students at the four universities for the autumn semester, was to begin on July 22.

has not yet been affected, it must continue to fortify itself against an onslaught of the quickly spreading "drug phenomena."

"Drug traffickers have seen openings for new markets in the Arab World and they will do their best to exploit these openings."

Gennaro added that the unit is facing a lot of problems because traffickers take advantage of the desert. He also noted that he saw "excellent coordination" between Colonel Ghaleb Zu'ubi's Anti-Narcotics Department and the Desert Police (Badia), headed by Fawaz Al Zabir and their cooperation with General Abdul Hadi Al Majali, the director of the Public Security Department.

The Border and Bedouin Police have been of great help in this according to Gennaro. "The fact that 80 per cent of Jordan is desert does not help the anti-narcotics and counterfeit units a great deal."

Gennaro pointed out that the major producer of hashish and opium derivatives (heroin), Lebanon, exports up to 800 tonnes of hashish per year. "More than half of that goes to Egypt, where you have the highest estimated consumption of drugs in the Arab World."

After visiting anti-drug stations in Ramtha and Aqaba (which is the outlet of drugs to Egypt), Gennaro remarked that Jordan

Arab industry ministers to discuss closer ties

TUNIS (Petra) — Ministers of Industry from Jordan and other Arab countries will attend a meeting here in October to chart new ways for closer cooperation among Arab states in industrial fields and to deal with obstacles impeding industrial coordination.

An Arab League spokesman said that the ministers will take part in the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development (AOID) meeting which is scheduled to open in October, in order to pave the way for a pan-Arab strategy

in industrial development that can serve until the year 2000.

The coming meeting will examine studies to finance industrial schemes and to remove all obstacles impeding inter-Arab industrial cooperation and coordination, the spokesman said.

He said that a preparatory committee for the October meeting will convene in Tunis in September to study a report by the AOID's technical sub-committee on pan-Arab industrial integration.

Supply law violators to be court martialled

AMMAN (J.T.) — Merchants and other profiteers who were found to have violated Ministry of Supply regulations and apprehended shortly before the Eid Al Adha feast last week, will be referred to trial by the military court, according to press reports.

At least 110 merchants were arrested by the police who found tens of tonnes of consumer goods and foodstuffs hidden in their warehouses according to earlier reports.

The police found that the merchants were awaiting prices to go up before selling the concealed products, the reports said.

They said that the search campaign continued until Eid Al Adha in the wake of widespread rumours that the merchants were concealing consumer products and a subsequent frenzied rush by the public to hoard any consumer goods they could lay hands on.

The consumer goods found

could play an important regional role in not only curbing the flow of drugs but also establishing a drug rehabilitation centre for the utmost."

Gennaro added that the unit is facing a lot of problems because traffickers take advantage of the desert. He also noted that he saw "excellent coordination" between Colonel Ghaleb Zu'ubi's Anti-Narcotics Department and the Desert Police (Badia), headed by Fawaz Al Zabir and their cooperation with General Abdul Hadi Al Majali, the director of the Public Security Department.

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Gennaro pointed out that it is impossible to estimate what percentage of the world's drug trafficking flows through Jordan.

He pointed out that drug abuse is an immense problem in developing countries. "The frightening thing is that it can spread in a very short time. Pakistan is a good example of how a country that was almost free of drug users 9 years ago has developed into a centre for drug trafficking and abuse in less than a decade. Official estimates place the number of drug addicts anywhere from half a million to 1 million people in Pakistan today."

Gennaro said he was very impressed by the efficiency of the Jordanian drug enforcement officials. They felt that Jordan "was willing and able to deal with the drug phenomena."

Despite the many theories developed on the reasons for the growth of drug abuse, Gennaro feels that the "drug phenomena" is not related to any "specific social, economic, or political phe-

nomena." According to him there seems to be no particular reason for the rapid growth of this illicit epidemic addiction.

"All human problems now, days seem to be conducive to drug abuse. The drug culture seems to be giving youth another alternative to solve their problems," he said.

Complimentary to Jordan, suggestions that a drug rehabilitation centre be set up in the country, Gennaro suggested that Jordanians be trained to deal with drug addiction. "This would entail visits and training abroad in studies of the different methodologies on how to deal with drug addiction."

The visitors noted that it is impossible to estimate what percentage of the world's drug trafficking flows through Jordan.

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Gennaro said he was very impressed by the efficiency of the Jordanian drug enforcement officials. They felt that Jordan "was willing and able to deal with the drug phenomena."

"This indicates the high priority that the Jordanian leadership places on keeping Jordan free of drugs. I am extremely impressed," he concluded.

U.S. group brings unique repertoire to Jerash

AMMAN (USIA) — In 1972 a group of dancers in the San Francisco Bay area joined to form the Dimensions Dance Theatre, devoted to exploring and combining African and American traditions of dance.

Seventeen years later, Dimensions is bringing its creative, vibrant, and joyful repertoire to Jordan as the official U.S. representative to the 1989 Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts.

The group's work is unlike anything that has been seen at Jerash before, and will challenge the idea that many people have of modern dance.

It combines African with Western, and traditional with contemporary.

Dances range from subtle and complex modern works to exuberant traditional pieces; music ranges from the minimalism of Philip Glass to the gospel of Sweet Honey in the Rock.

In pieces featuring live music, the group's dancers and drummers work so closely together that it becomes impossible to tell whether the sound is inspiring the movement, or the movement is inspiring the sound.

The most striking aspect of the group's performance is their sense of energy and joy.

After seeing Dimensions dance, one critic said "I doubt that it would be possible for any human being anywhere to ever have more fun."

Dimensions will give three performances at Jerash: on Monday, July 17, at 9:30 p.m. in the South Theatre; Tuesday, July 18, at 7:45 p.m. in the South Theatre; and on Wednesday, July 19, at 9:30 p.m. at the Artemis Step.



Members of the Dimensions Dance Theatre in action

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

* An exhibition of posters which show the history of puppets at the French Cultural Centre.



One of the warehouses found by the police during a crackdown on profiteers (left). Consumer goods found hidden in a warehouse (right).



Consumer goods found

Arabica

Jordan Times

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Shamir's double talk; Washington's empty threats

ISRAELI Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir appears to be speaking with many tongues these hot days. One day he tells his inner collaborators, Sharon, Levy and Mod'ai, that his soul is bound by their conditions on Israel's so-called peace proposals and on the other he tells Washington that nothing really has changed and that his original "peace initiative" stands as is. This kind of political acrobatics can lead to only more confusion as to where Tel Aviv really stands on the Palestinian question and the other dimensions of the Arab-Israeli conflict. What adds insult to injury is the fact that both the U.S. and the trio Israeli extremists seem to believe Shamir. Logic on the other hand would call for believing one side of Shamir's story or the other — not both. In other words he is either lying to his countrymen including Sharon and his clique or to the U.S. or worst still to both sides.

This is all happening when Washington is threatening Israel with the idea of convening an international peace conference on the Middle East as a last resort. The question that comes to one's mind is the following: Since when does the holding of an international conference under the aegis of the U.N. Security Council's permanent members constitute a form of punishment to be meted against any party to the Arab-Israeli conflict? The international community has always subscribed to the conference idea as the only viable and operational way left to move the parties to the Middle East conflict from base one. The recent verdict of the seven Western leaders, who met in Paris on the occasion of the bicentennial celebrations of the French Revolution, that convening an international conference on the Middle East offers the best hope to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflicts is an added evidence that the involvement of the U.N. Security Council is a blessing and not a curse on the parties to the conflicts. This proposition is valid no matter what the real intentions of Israel are on the issues of war and peace in the Middle East.

If only Washington would stop wavering on the conference objective and refrain from treating it as a bogey idea, all sides stand to gain much precious time and opportunities. Accordingly, the ball remains in the U.S. side of the court and the sooner it kicks it back to the right side the better would be the chances for peace in the Middle East.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily last Thursday came out with an editorial on the first day of Eid Al Adha (feast of sacrifice), noting that the feast is being celebrated by millions of Muslims around the globe while dangers continue to loom in the offing threatening the Arab and Islamic nations. The paper said that the feast marked a station, and presented a moment for contemplation and stocktaking for the Arabs and Muslims in their process to maintain peace in their region. What is needed now more than any time in the past, said Al Ra'i, is strong cohesion between Arabs and Muslims so that the common dangers posed to the nation can be confronted and overcome. The paper referred to Jordan's pioneering role in cementing ties between the Arab and Islamic countries and its continued drive to support the Palestinian people's rights in their homeland and their struggle for freedom. Jordan under King Hussein has been acting in implementation of the principles of the Great Arab Revolt and aiming to achieve a strong unity among the Arab and Muslim brothers in the Gulf area, in Lebanon and all other parts of this region, the paper added. It said that the feast should prompt all countries and Jordan to maintain the struggle for peace and for fending off all external threats posed against the Arab and Islamic world.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily launches a strong attack on the perpetrators of the bomb blasts in Mecca where more than a million Muslims were performing the annual pilgrimage. Mahmood Rizawi, describing the attack as a criminal attempt to disrupt the pilgrimage rites and destabilise Saudi Arabia's security, said that the group behind the blasts can only be terrorists bent on causing splits among Muslims. The blasts occurred in the same spot that witnessed disturbances in the pilgrimage season two years ago, and therefore all indications point to the fact that the perpetrators must be the same who caused the previous trouble, the writer notes. He says this time the blasts caused little damage against the wishes of the perpetrators and the conspirators. Regardless of the slogans carried by the plotters of such attacks they can only be described as terrorist activities designed to cause harm to the Arab and Islamic nation as a whole, the writer adds. When the blasts occurred, he continues, Israel's war planes were launching attacks on Palestinian camps in Lebanon and the Arab League mediation committee was making a fresh attempt to bring about national reconciliation in Lebanon.

Al Dustour daily said that the Eid Al Adha this year comes at a time when the Arabs and Muslims are optimistic about their future cooperation and unity, and at a moment when there is consensus on ending inter-Arab differences at all costs. The Gulf war has now ended and there is a great deal of optimism that Iran and Iraq will finally reach a permanent settlement and the Arab countries have now turned their attention towards new economic groupings designed to maintain the momentum of development and progress, said the paper. Therefore, it said, there are all reasons for the Arabs to look with more confidence towards the future and to expect further constructive steps at all levels to see more progress.

The new path of Communism

Henry Kissinger predicts the future of Communism following the upheavals in the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and China. He is interviewed by Marc Ullman of 'Paris Match'

Question: Can the transformation of Communism occur peacefully and can the Soviet national state be kept together in more or less historic national boundaries? Or will it disintegrate?

Kissinger: That is the big question of the period, more important than arms control and many other issues that are the subject of day-to-day diplomacy. The second big question is: Can you go from a centrally planned economy to a market economy without a degree of political turmoil which threatens political cohesion?

What of the nationalities problem?

I don't think anybody knows whether it's manageable. There's no evidence to show that a unifying principle has been found, on the basis of which the nationalities feel that they should accept as a permanent feature the Russian domination of their personalty. The Russian empire never found a way of governing except by Russian domination of the non-Russian population. The difference between the Russian empire and the European empire is that the Russian empire is contiguous to the Russian population. My instinct is that if it begins to look as if the historic Russian empire is disintegrating there will be an assertion of state authority — by the army or by the party or maybe by a combination of both. I do not believe they will let it disintegrate without fighting.

Would the Ukraine be a more severe test than the Muslim regions?

The Muslim populations are the most immediate test, but Soviet leaders may still believe that they can balance their domination of the Muslim populations by local autonomy, and for all I know they may. They may be prepared to make major experiments in the Muslim areas, but they will not make the same experiments in the Ukraine.

In the Baltic republics they are willing to risk major experiments because there is a rational reason for doing so. People in the Baltic republics are culturally and historically different from the Russian people, and theoretically the Soviets can experiment with market conditions there without risking large migrations of Russians to share in any good economic results. But that depends on whether the Baltic countries are satisfied with autonomy and a higher standard of living, or whether they will want total independence. That is where I suspect that the Soviet Union would draw the line.

There are all sorts of experiments going on in Poland and Hungary these days. What are the limits the Soviet Union can accept there?

The potential crisis in European diplomacy is in managing the evolution of the East European countries. My instinct is that if these countries try to leave the Warsaw Pact that would mean an end to Soviet patience. That may be less true of Hungary, but it is almost certainly the situation in Poland.

What about their associating with the Common Market and extending their economic relations with the West?

It would depend in part on how

the Soviets perceived the significance of these events. One can make a case for the proposition that if the Soviet Union identifies its security with Communist governments in Eastern Europe, then it is in a permanent position of a policeman subject to crises it does not control. The Soviets would risk all of their achievements in public opinion in Western Europe if they were driven or even tempted into repression. So one could make a case for the theory that a status for Eastern Europe like that of Austria is safer for the Soviet Union than a permanent crisis in Poland, Hungary, and in time Czechoslovakia.

Now, if one could convince the Soviets of this, directly or by implication, then you have to ask what it would mean with respect to military arrangements. Ideally one would say the East Bloc countries should be free to leave the Warsaw Pact. I suspect that the best way to approach this is in stages and to say that as part of existing arms control negotiations they have to withdraw from Czechoslovakia and from Hungary, but that they can keep certain forces in Germany and Poland if they commit themselves to political evolution toward pluralistic forms that would leave those countries free to determine their political future.

That still leaves the problem of the German Democratic Republic. In Poland and Hungary it is possible to identify security with national independence toward East and West. The German Democratic Republic could not survive as a state once the Communist Party accepts minority status. That is one reason I believe that change should move in stages.

What should be the policy of the Western Europeans if our aim is to encourage peaceful evolution?

The West European countries have an interest in peaceful evolution. They have an interest in its occurring within a European context and not a German national context. If it occurs in a German national context the evolution is less likely to be peaceful. Finally, Western Europe does not want the process of evolution to wreck the relationship with the U.S., at least from the point of view of common defence. Those are the three objectives that the West must keep in mind, and it will require a complex policy.

Germany should pursue its aims through the European Community, and the Common Market should not be simply an extension of German national policy but should effect a genuine European policy. First of all, not even the Soviets understand what they are starting.

The future can go in one of two directions. The Soviet Union will disintegrate, or the Soviet Union will become very strong by succeeding in its economic reforms. If it disintegrates, which is not in our interest, there will be unforeseeable international consequences. If perestroika succeeds, it is naive to think that issues that could not be settled when they were weak can be settled when

they are strong. So my answer to your question is: The basic problem with respect to the Soviet Union has not changed. The question is whether the smaller states on the Soviet periphery can — with the aid of the U.S. — live in equilibrium with that colossus of an empire with 11 time zones. That's a problem that has never been settled. It needs to be settled now. If we can settle that issue, then we can with some safety help with Soviet internal evolution. If that issue cannot be settled now that the Soviet Union is weak, it is naive to think we will settle it later if it becomes strong.

Can the Soviet economic system correct itself without disrupting the political order? And where do Western interests lie on that question?

There is more to it than economics. The vested interests of all those who hold power either in government or in the economy in a centrally planned system are antithetical to a market economy. Besides, they don't really know how to run a market economy even if the interests were not antithetical. To be a factory manager in the Soviet Union means you are a good politician who can meet the quotas and deal with the ministries and planning mechanisms. You do not have to have any great entrepreneurial skill. In fact entrepreneurial skill may be a liability. Whenever I talk to Soviet economists or economic planners they sound like kindly professors in an obscure university who put forward theories without practical meaning.

Now what should be the Western attitude?

Napoleon once said, "if you want to take Vienna, take Vienna." If you want to conduct foreign policy. I'm not insisting that the Soviet Union let their national state disintegrate as a condition of getting Western help. I would not make it a condition that they have been Russian for a hundred years. But they should allow Europe to reunify and reduce their military expenditures.

Do you see a possibility of a backlash against Gorbachev's reforms, or is it possible that he would lead such a backlash himself?

Either could happen. He could try to lead the backlash, and given the powerful position he has developed for himself, it's not out of the question. Or they could get rid of him. I like him better than any other Soviet leader I have met, but I would be very careful not to tie Western policy to one Soviet leader. I believe,

that should Gorbachev die or be replaced, the next Soviet leader would face the same necessities. He might not operate with the same panache, the same psychological skill, but if he were realistic he would have to act in the same manner.

If there is a backlash in the Soviet Union, it would take a different form than in China, would it not?

Russia has not had as many of its people studying in the West as China has. Gorbachev is using the groups that have supported perestroika by giving them some role in the Supreme Soviet and in the administrative machinery, and he undoubtedly hopes that this will prevent a situation similar to China. Then, too, the Russian people are less individualistic in their relation to the government than the Chinese are from time to time. In my view what triggered the uprising in China was price reform and inflation. The students would have been unhappy, but they would not have been able to get as much mass support without inflation and corruption. Now the Soviet Union will also have to go through price reform. And the essence of price reform is price increases.

Mass demonstrations happen rarely in Russia. But it's hard to perceive what will happen when prices go up and job security is threatened.

What of China?

China is a tragedy because the crisis was produced by reformers whose economic reforms in fact produced the forces that started the demonstrations. The crisis in China occurred because no road was found for the new educated classes, especially those educated in the West. Doing the right thing with price reform was another cause. In a Communist system you have enormous corruption to begin with, because when so many decisions are made by bureaucrats the only free market is corruption. When you add a free market to this state economy, you get even more corruption because now you can buy in one market and sell in another. And so getting through the transitional phase may be an insoluble problem. The Chinese got caught in the transitional phase.

The students and intellectuals undoubtedly thought they were struggling for democracy, but I think that the workers who participated were struggling for job security and steady income, and at some point it merged in a power struggle within the Communist Party between the reformers and the older generation. I find it hard to believe that you can have a hundred thousand people in a square day after day with the attendant problems of hygiene, food and so forth without support from some government circles. Nor is it normal for demonstrators in China to have English signs, so there had to be a high degree of organisation. There were many facets: a democratic element, an economic element and a party struggle between the Zhao faction and the Deng faction.

How long can the regime last?

There is no clear-cut succession. One of the tragedies of the Chinese situation is that Deng understood better than any other Communist leader the impossibility of governing by the Communist system of periodic purges. He tried to achieve continuity by creating three levels of leadership.

Do you think that concern for the environment could help the cause of international cooperation, could help relax East-West tensions?

It is desirable to address environmental concerns on an international basis, because it is indeed a common problem of mankind. And I would do that for its own sake. But I would not do it self-consciously to ease East-West tensions. Too many people in the West believe that East-West tensions are caused by some terrible misunderstanding, and that if you can only do a few things together we will all live in peace.

I do not want to deflect us from the recognition that tensions have been caused by objective conditions, and that those objective conditions must be improved along the lines of what we discussed earlier. On top of this, however, I believe that we should work together on the environment, not as a substitute for solving tensions, not as a means of solving tensions, but as something that is a new problem that we have in common, and that if it is coupled with a solution of the causes of tensions might in fact lead to international cooperation.

— Los Angeles Times.



"And if a Democrat had tried to open up China and the Soviet Union, we'd have crucified him!"

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Buying from the Third World for the Third World



Rice from Pakistan was purchased for drought victims in Senegal.

The French Marianne a model for the 1990s

By Suzy Menkes

International Herald Tribune

PARIS — She is, to give her full and fancy name, Ines Marie Astetia Eglantine Isabelle de Marigny de la Fressange.

Now we can just call her Marianne. For the quirky, aristocratic model who gave quicksilver life to the staid fashion house of Chanel, has been chosen as the modern-day Marianne by the nation of France.

The official statue is a classical figure in a Phrygian bonnet, symbolizing the triumph of the Republic. She has the emotional status of the Statue of Liberty to French schoolchildren. Ines de la Fressange is the latest, modern Marianne, following actresses Brigitte Bardot and Catherine Deneuve.

"I haven't been chosen for physical reasons," she says. "They could have found someone much more beautiful than me. But without being pretentious, it proves that in the 1990s you can be elegant yet funny at the same time, and that fashion is recognized as serious, yet you don't have to be too solemn about it."

her partner (she calls him her husband) Luigi D'Urso walks in to lunch with Princess Caroline of Monaco. "You see," says Ines with a wicked grin, "The husband of Marianne is dining with a princess!"

The daughter of the Marquis de la Fressange wears her aristocratic status as lightly as her couture clothes. "I've never felt aristocratic," she insists. "My father didn't even use his title — it was his driver who would refer to 'Madame la Marquise.' She mimics the unctuous phrase.

"I believe that everybody should have sense of importance, and dignity — the most ordinary people as much as aristocrats."

She is proud and honoured to have been chosen as the Marianne, and particularly pleased (another malicious smile) to make the cover of *Vogue*, which has never before given her star status.

She stands cropped head and narrow shoulders above other, prettier models, unique in the fashion world for her droll personality, her intelligence and wit. She studied art history briefly at

Avignon and Ales, where Luigi will bring "tons of friends" and she will read Dostoevsky and Sagan and reread "Catcher in the Rye," and come back to Paris with a "clean brain."

It suggests an idyllic Jules-et-Jim landscape of life sunny-side-up.

But there is a cloud: Karl Lagerfeld, the Svengali to her Trilby, the architect of Chanel's new image and the man she describes as "my best buddy," is enraged.

"The Marianne is the symbol of everything that is boring, bourgeois and provincial," says Lagerfeld. "I have succeeded in stopping Chanel from being part of the establishment, identified with the bourgeoisie. Now all that is being handed right back to me. No thanks!"

He wrote Ines a letter suggesting that this might be the end of their heady professional partnership, established in 1984, when Ines was signed for a seven-year contract with Chanel.

"I am not even sure that she will be on the runway in July," says Lagerfeld. "I cannot forgive her for this. I will never forgive her." Taking a queue from its fashion savior, Chanel's management has not sent its Marianne even a bouquet of flowers.

Ines has played memorable vignettes on the Paris runways. She recounts how, in the pre-Chanel days, she was showing for Jean-Paul Gaultier a fur coat that folded into a bag. When the zipper stuck, she pulled it along like a pet poodle — and brought the house down. It is ridiculous, she says, to be lauded for so little.

Now she will saunter down the runway, back slightly hunched, hand in pocket, cigarette capped between finger and thumb — Coco Chanel to the life.

"I was wrong to be identified with a cigarette," she says. "I wanted to be Chanel. But the little girls see me, beautifully made up and in nice clothes, and they think that is something to do with smoking. I refuse now, when a photographer asks me to pose with a cigarette."

Lagerfeld gives her all the best lines: the jaunty pageboy knickers in deep pile velvet; the breezy pleated Deauville skirt; the wispy black chantilly lace dress with bows bracing its backbone.

The new Chanel image developed from their joint perceptions of the Grande Mademoiselle herself. "It was her personality, much more than her clothes, or the models of the time like Suzy Parker, which gave the house its image," says Ines.

the Louvre, took up modelling and was taken up by Chanel in 1984.

To the greater public, Ines de la Fressange is perceived as the reincarnation of Coco Chanel, and strangers will stop her in the street to tell her that they are wearing "her" perfume, or to congratulate her on the clothes. She is mobbed at personal appearances worldwide. She takes it all in her tomboy stride.

The insouciant charm is matched by a kooky sense of fun.

She talks of her childhood, in a big house with parents, siblings, beloved grandmother and nanny. Her current home is a bijou apartment at the Palais Royal with her "little brother" (a handsome grown man), with Luigi and her labrador dog Jim.

By Dianne Weathers

WITH ITS economy in tatters and its farm sector battered by rebel activity rampant throughout the countryside, Mozambique required massive infusions of food assistance in 1988. Most of it came from the usual sources — the United States, Canada and other food-surplus countries of the West. But food for the Mozambique emergency also came from less traditional suppliers. There were beans from Kenya, sugar from Malawi and Swaziland, and thousands of tonnes of maize trucked in from Zimbabwe.

It is a concept with tremendous potential — a means of magnifying the impact of limited resources. Rather than relying solely on the flow of assistance from north to south, why not search for alternative means to channel aid, thus enabling Third World countries to play a more active role in each other's development?

Few developing nations have the means to be donors. However, many of them can be sources of goods and services which donors can, in turn, purchase and put to good use either locally or in other Third World countries.

Increasingly, this is the approach being taken by the

World Food Programme, the food-aid arm of the United Nations, which supplies a quarter of the food aid distributed globally. Most of this aid consists of commodities donated directly by developed nations. But under certain conditions, funds are available to purchase needed food with cash.

Just last year, WFP spent a record \$136 million to purchase 605,800 tonnes of food for distribution in developing countries. Four out of every five tonnes of those commodities — amounting to \$108 million or 80 per cent of the total — were bought in Third World countries. Most of those countries — 17 out of 28 — were in sub-Saharan Africa. In fact, since 1985, WFP has spent more than \$300 million on food purchases in developing countries, and has done more to promote south/south trade than any other U.N. agency.

Maize from Zimbabwe, beans from Burma

Most cash purchases are triangular transactions, meaning commodities are purchased in one developing country for food distribution in the project. maize meal and Likuni Phala, a special weaning food, are purchased locally.

Take Zimbabwe, a food-surplus country with particularly

high-quality maize. Between 1981 and 1984, the "Zimbabwe Maize Train" transported more than 400,000 tonnes of maize purchased by WFP for distribution in 15 countries throughout sub-Saharan Africa. Last year alone, WFP purchased 118,715 tonnes of commodities from Zimbabwe, again much of it maize, valued at nearly \$22.5 million. In addition to the shipments destined for Mozambique, vast quantities of food went to feed the nearly 600,000 Mozambican refugees in Malawi.

Similar transactions take place elsewhere. Rice from Pakistan was purchased for Senegal, Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau and Guinea. Turkey supplied lentils distributed in Algeria and beans from Burma were shipped to Djibouti.

Commodities purchased by WFP are also used in the originating country. Since 1972, for example, WFP has provided food to Malawi for a supplementary feeding project for pre-school children, expectant and nursing mothers and hospital patients.

The two essential food items distributed in the project, maize meal and Likuni Phala, a special weaning food, are purchased locally.

Last year, in Thailand, WFP

purchased 138,000 tonnes of rice, fish, beans and vegetable oil to feed the 230,000 refugees on the Thai/Kampuchea border.

Although the idea looks good on paper, buying in the Third World for the Third World is rarely as easy as it sounds. "It can take about ten minutes to order a commodity — let's say rice — on the international market," says Langdon Smith, Chief of WFP's Resources Service. "In some Third World countries, these kinds of arrangements can take months to complete."

Many developing countries simply lack the infrastructure needed to operate an efficient market. "You often do have good warehousing, good supervision, good washing facilities or good equipment," Langdon Smith elaborates. "However, you don't have skilled people with years of accumulated experience."

WFP has had experiences where purchase contracts — for whatever reason — simply were not honoured and food supplies stopped instantly. Such breaks in supply can ruin a development project where very often food is a necessary supplement to wages. In an emergency, it can jeopardize countless numbers of lives.

Another problem is transport, a common constraint to doing

business in many developing countries. Before purchasing a particular commodity, WFP experts must first ask a very basic question, namely, how will it reach its intended destination?

WFP's Langdon Smith recalls, "not so fondly, the time it took a year and a half to move 3,000 tonnes of Kenyan maize to southern Ethiopia. "We felt a tremendous sense of relief and accomplishment once it finally arrived," he recalls with a touch of dry humour. "After you've been beating your head against a wall for a long time, and then you stop, you do feel a sense of relief and accomplishment."

For all the difficulties — both routine and totally unexpected — the consensus is that these kinds of purchases are well worth the extra effort. In times of emergency, buying food from local or regional markets is often the most cost-effective and rapid means of food delivery. Food for countries with surpluses of certain items, it also provides a means of increasing much-needed foreign currency. Equally important is that it is an excellent way to promote regional trade and international cooperation and involve more nations in the fight against poverty and underdevelopment — JWFP.

Antiquities: Profits versus conservation

By Barbara Slavin

CAIRO — The antiquities of Egypt mean many things to many people: an awesome array of attractions for tourists, the focus of careers for a small international bank of scholars, a unique natural resource for Egypt's cash-starved government.

How to satisfy their conflicting interests is a challenge that sometimes seems as damning as preserving the millennia-old treasures across the Nile from Luxor.

Primary responsibility for safeguarding Egypt's estimated 10,000 ancient sites rests with the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation (AOA). Its powers are considerable, but its budget for restoration is only \$6 million a year.

It can be overruled by the Ministry of Culture, of which it is a department, and by more influential ministries such as tourism.

Earlier this year, Chinese contract labourers building a tourist village bulldozed through the remains of a Greco-Roman town on the Mediterranean near the World War II battle site of El Alamein.

Two years ago, an Egyptian expatriate businessman with political pull got permission to stage the Verdi opera, "Aida," at one of the country's most endangered monuments, Luxor Temple, in upper Egypt.

While precautions were taken to safeguard the complex of pylons, pillars and statues built by a dozen pharaohs and Greek and Roman conquerors, the nightly presence for several weeks of thousands of spectators and hundreds of performers — not to mention horses — certainly did the 3,300-year-old temple no good.

At the same time, local authorities began constructing a stone embankment along the Nile to make it easier for cruise boats to dock. But the new corniche seals in underground water — the chief cause of the accelerated deterioration of Luxor Temple and many other antiquities, from pharaonic to Islamic, that tourists come to Egypt to see.

The water-borne cancer has also spread due to the Aswan High Dam. A boon to Egypt's agriculture, the 20-year-old dam stopped the annual flooding of the Nile, which used to wash natural and fertilizer salts from the soil. Year-round cultivation and irrigation have kept groundwater perpetually high.

Overpopulation close to monuments without adequate sewage disposal has accelerated the disease. Ancient structures suck up excess moisture like straws. The water evaporates quickly in the arid and Egyptian climate and salts leach out, turning precious stone surfaces to powder.

Given the increasing precariousness of many monuments, one would think that the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation

would welcome all the help it can get to record and preserve them.

But another ancient Egyptian invention — bureaucracy — has been hindering the work of many foreign Egyptologists, who still dominate the field nearly two centuries after it was invented by Frenchmen who accompanied Napoleon's invasion of Egypt.

In January, a new EAO administration suspended restoration by Polish archaeologists of the 3,400-year-old mortuary temple of Queen Hatshepsut. Also known as Deir el Bahri, it is considered the grandest monument across the Nile from Luxor.

Sayed Tawfik, who became the director of the antiquities organisation in December, said the restoration, on which the Poles had laboured for 21 years, was incorrect because it used modern materials "unknown to the ancients. He also said the mountain into which the majestic, multi-tiered temple was cut is dangerously unstable.

Members of the Polish team said they were aware of the mountain's fragility and were in the process of shoring up the slope. "The suspension has left the monument in a worse state than before," one team member said.

A ruling requiring foreigners to get special permission to use EAO labourers postponed restoration of reliefs by a British

Dutch group in the 3,300-year-old tomb of Maya, of the Pharaoh Tutankhamun, in the necropolis at Saqqara, just south of Cairo.

Permission was also withheld

to continue a 7-year-old American-sponsored excavation of a 5th-century B.C. temple at the nearby ancient capital of Memphis.

Permits to continue work on other sites have been taking up to six months to obtain, according to foreign scholars. Regulations previously ignored are being enforced — including ones such as the requirement that those seeking permits put down middle names on their application forms.

a problem for Austrians, who generally lack them.

Even when permits have been granted, some archaeologists have not been given a starting date.

"This entails an enormous loss of money which could better be spent on archaeology than on keeping people in hotels twiddling their thumbs," one frustrated senior archaeologist said.

While some foreigners sit on the sidelines, some high-profile Egyptian projects have continued.

In a rare victory over the Tourism Ministry, the EAO kept

Egypt's signature monument — the Great Pyramid of Cheops — closed for nine months while the monument's interior had its first thorough cleanup in 150 years.

Rats and insects that had thrived there were destroyed. Layers of soot and salt were removed from the passages. Beneath the grime, workers discovered ominous cracks and had to restore 500 of the pyramid's limestone blocks, according to Zahi Hawass.

No decision has been made, however, about what to do with the Sphinx, the pyramid's sicker neighbour on the Giza plateau.

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Nudging people moves investments

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

CURRENCY hedging, among many other financial practices, is not a new phenomenon. Without a complicated definition or a detailed explanation, it simply means that money — any money — carries a risk.

Buying a Cadillac or hoarding rice and sugar are examples of currency hedging practised by different people (or quite often by one person) as a "safe" measure against an ambiguous future. This "impulse buying" or hoarding process is a totally normal and natural human behaviour although not completely without reservations.

Israelis, Argentines, Yugoslavs, Peruvians, Turks, Lebanese, Iranians and many other nationalities have every reason to dump their currencies in various forms of hedging because of turbulent economic uncertainties in their countries ranging from hyperinflation to almost daily cuts in the value of the shekel, austral, dinar, inti.

lira, pound and riyal... and what have you.

The South Koreans, Taiwanese and other newly industrialised nations in South East Asia are, by contrast, getting the creeps from the pressure resulting from the excessive appreciation of the high-flying won and Taiwanese dollar.

To a further extent, no one — even those living in the industrial world — knows for sure which is the currency or commodity that can offer a safe haven for investments or savings.

The mighty dollar was in the doldrums in recent years and, only last week, international experts urged giving less loans to the United States, which, as the world's richest country, was also the world's biggest debtor with debts of more than \$500 billion. Moreover, who knows, may be in the near future the yen or scrap metals could shine as other experts have also recently discounted gold as the glittering refuge for hedging during the 90s.

Therefore, if money carries a

risk and if hedging is a risky business too, then what should or could a Jordanian do?

I doubt whether I asked the right question because the correct phrasing should probably be: How Jordanian official and non-official institutions should positively influence currency hedging here?

Ministries, trade and industrial bodies, newspapers and magazines, seminars and lectures and a whole chorus of speakers call for, urge, stress and emphasise the need for productive investments. What investments, may I ask?

A government entity sets up a special department to promote, analyse and help establish industrial or manufacturing firms. Another institution opts to launch a periodical to highlight the investment climate but both end up limping along with other "creative ideas" designed to develop and diversify production and exports.

Somebody might think I am going to unveil a recommendation now but, surprisingly, I dare say that I have a solid and

definite answer to some of the complexities that surround the investment question.

The following story will undoubtedly be interesting to read but will be more valuable if it can be copied in different forms.

A top international bank has a unique section in every branch of its worldwide network. The section, called High Networth Division, is headed by a credit officer whose primary task is to locate high networth individuals and to follow up (openly or secretly) on their businesses and even to integrate their social activities in order to lure their monies to the bank: for a high return on them, of course.

The moral that I see in the above story is an initiative to locate and follow up. As such, does the team of that special department at the Ministry of Industry and Trade have that "long list" of potential investors? What has it achieved since it was established or is the team only waiting for well-off people to knock on their doors

and request some preset pamphlets and "textbooks"?

If everybody agrees that we don't care much anymore about investing in a boutique or a jewellery shop and that our eyes should focus more on real productive investments that not only reduce spending but will also replenish the Kingdom's foreign currency reserves, then it is high time for serious

What's wrong if the "economy ministries" cooperate with the Association of Banks in Jordan which, in turn, would coordinate with local Jordanian banks to push savers of say JD 30,000 or more, by giving them a semi-annual list of profitable, feasible and likely needed small industries?

What's wrong if responsible officials concerned with the phrase "encouraging investments" move from behind their desks to talk and discuss productive investments with targets or "names" who can be picked or located from many sources?

What's wrong if a potential investor is given a feeling of importance and prestige at his office or his home, along the same lines of the superior feeling a foreign company usually affords any "ordinary" Arab to his wealth.

I don't intend to bury the good achievements and good methods of "reaching out" to the public adopted by some institutions like Jordan's Industrial Development Bank (IDB) but, what stops this important entity from publishing, once in a while, a success story of one of its clients in addition to the general statistics of more figures it publishes in the local daily newspapers periodically.

People need to be moved by live examples that are not confined to magazines or bulletins of specially which have a limited circulation on the one hand and which includes articles mostly of concern to intellectuals on the other hand — thus making the benefit to the general public, more or less, worthless.

Similarly, the Agricultural

Credit Corporation, the Free Zones Corporation, the Industrial Estate Corporation and other entities should use the local newspapers to portray the successes of projects undertaken through them and illustratively push the public towards productive investments away from the rhetoric announcements and news items that not only says nothing but destroys the reader as well.

Inasmuch as we need a new style of economic thinking and initiatives, I am not going to spare the past, recent and present management of local newspapers the harshest blame for obstructing constructive promotion of Jordan's economic potentials and needs.

"No. No. No. — It's an advertisement. They should pay for this" goes one authority.

How in the world can Jordan build economic confidence, promote national interests and highlight needs if every "success" or "problem" faces tens of question marks, not the

least, from the media.

Would the government, please tell the public openly what are the projects that Jordan needs and what it requires in terms of capital, assets and manpower to do?

And, more importantly, local newspapers should cooperate with the IDB, the Chamber of Industry or any other responsible organisation to evaluate successful small or medium-size industries and publish them regularly and free of charge with photos because that is one way to break the constraints of "fanning" or "defaming" ideology we struggle with.

Isn't it outrageous to find Asian supermarkets selling "Made in China" pet cloth holders ("Mitten") is the commercially successful item but they are not other than pieces of cloth stitched together?

And, isn't it high time that Jordanians show their currency hedging flow into precious real estate stones and precious "finger" stones?

Soviets want world economy 'steak'

PARIS (AP) — The leaders of the seven richest democracies moved toward a Sunday consensus on solving international economic problems, after in-depth discussions of a letter from Mikhail Gorbachev asking that Soviet Union be included in any such solutions.

The Gorbachev letter, in which he appealed for full integration of the Soviet Union in the world economy, apparently took Western leaders by surprise and quickly assumed centre stage at their annual economic summit.

The leaders of France, West Germany, Britain, Japan, Canada, Italy and the United States were expected to issue an economic declaration Sunday addressing the problems of Third World debt and the environment.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, attending his ninth consecutive summit, called the gathering "the most harmonious and one of the most productive summits that I have attended."

Until the arrival of the Gorbachev letter, the debt problems of Poland and of the Third World were the focus of the 15th summit, being held amid a series of extravaganzas marking the bicentennial of the French revolution.

In Gorbachev's letter, the Soviet leader said his policy of economic restructuring known as perestroika, means that the Soviet Union wants a full and entire participation in the world economy."

Gorbachev suggested cooperation in easing the Third World's \$1.3 trillion debt, saying in his

letter: "We see points of convergence and complementarity in the approaches to global problems, in particular the solution to Third World debt. It doesn't matter who gets credit for the best initiative. The essential thing is that there is a real possibility to contribute together to the efficiency of practical measures in the domain of debt."

The letter, addressed to French President Francois Mitterrand as summit chairman, was the primary subject of discussion at Saturday's working dinner under the gleaming glass pyramid in the Louvre Museum's Napoleon Courtyard.

"If there was a common element of reaction (to the letter)," Mitterrand spokesman Hubert Vedrine told reporters afterward, "it was that Gorbachev's initiative was inspired by the desire to insert the Soviet Union progressively into the world economy, and one of the most productive summits that I have attended."

U.S. officials were intrigued by the overture, and Martin Fitzwater, spokesman for President George Bush, said the summit leaders found it "positive and supportive."

But the officials also saw the idea as impractical, and one said "it's going to be tough until he has a convertible rouble," in a joking reference to the weak Soviet currency.

Concerns about the global environment were also high on the leaders' agenda.

"Today a good economic policy must simultaneously be a good environment policy," West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl told the six others, according to his spokesman, Hans Klein.

Striving for prosperity is questionable if the natural habitat of mankind is destroyed in the process," Kohl said.

The West German leader cal-

led for intensified scientific research and coordination of international environmental protection efforts. He also urged that an agreement be reached by the end of the century on eliminating the use of chlorofluorocarbons, which are eroding the earth's protective ozone layer.

The environment was also on the agenda of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who told the summit Saturday that "no generation has a freehold on this earth," using the British parlance for full ownership of property.

A British spokesman, who relayed her comments, said there was general agreement that environmental problems should be attacked through existing organisations, such as the U.N. Environmental Programme and the World Meteorological Organisation.

The Bush administration also views the environment as an area in which the United States can take the lead.

William Reilly, administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, told reporters that of all the previous summits, "none has ever come close to paying attention to the environment that this one has."

However, Reilly said no formal agreement on a course of action was expected in the economic communiqué Sunday.

On Saturday, the summit leaders issued declarations on China, East-West relations, terrorism and human rights.

The East-West declaration stated their willingness to give aid to Poland and Hungary in support of moves toward democracy and a free market economy. The summit partners noted the food scarcity in Poland, and a European official said shipments of surplus food from European Community stocks

could begin within two weeks. The summit leaders denounced Beijing authorities for crushing the pro-democracy movement, and urged the World Bank to deny new loans to China.

The leaders also agreed to set up an international trade in illicit drugs.

Japan Saturday outlined further details of the nearly \$40 billion in aid for the Third World and the global environment it brought to the seven-nation summit of industrialised nations.

As part of the lavish package, Japan will extend a programme to recycle its trade surpluses for the benefit of developing countries by \$35 billion, bringing the total to \$65 billion over a five-year period.

The programme, which had been scheduled to end in 1989, began in 1987 with \$30 billion in funding, of which 90 per cent has been committed, said the statement.

The recycling programme will also include an additional \$5.5 billion in funding for the Brady plan, a programme put forward by U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady to help indebted middle-income countries such as Mexico and Brazil.

"We are not disappointed by the reaction of summit countries," Koichiro Matsura, director general of economic cooperation at the foreign ministry, told reporters. "We are satisfied."

The statement explained that the 24-nation Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund and the Export-Import Bank of Japan would provide the money on a united basis bilaterally or in the form of



Mikhail Gorbachev

cofinancing with the World Bank or other development banks.

It added that a tax-incentive scheme was being developed to "enable Japanese commercial banks to cooperate without impediment."

In the spring, Japan also pledged \$4.5 billion in parallel lendings with the International Monetary Fund for the Brady plan.

To help indebted sub-Saharan nations, Japan has pledged \$600 million in new, non-project grant aid to be given out over a three-year period beginning in fiscal 1990, said the statement.

The money follows \$500 million in similar grants, of which 60 per cent was handed out in 1987 and 1988, it said. The remaining \$200 million will be distributed in 1989.

The statement did not say

which countries would receive the new grants.

Calling for concrete moves on the environment at the summit, Japan said it would donate \$2.25 billion over three years to help developing countries with "bootstrap" projects for improving the environment.

It said the money would be given to environment-related development loans to upper middle-income countries as well as to organisations which help preserve tropical rainforests.

Japan imports 40 per cent of the timber sold after it is cut from endangered tropical forests, and has been under fire for a number of other stances such as hunting whales, allegedly funding development projects which hurt the environment, and importing products from endangered species.

Iran targets gas reserves

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Hashemi Rafsanjani, widely expected to be Iran's next president, says he plans to focus the country's economic future on developing its vast natural gas reserves, the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Sunday.

It quoted Rafsanjani, Iran's parliament speaker, as saying in an interview with the radical Jomhuri Islami daily published Sunday that Iran should intensify exploitation of its gas reserves "as the best and richest sources of energy."

This should be a key part of Iran's post-war reconstruction programme, he said.

Rafsanjani's remarks indicated that the Iranian leadership is developing a new economic strategy that carries considerable political significance as well.

Building up gas as a major export and energy source will involve major foreign assistance, indicating that Rafsanjani could be planning to revive his efforts to rebuild Iran's links with the West to obtain the technology and investment needed to exploit the country's huge gasfields.

His moves to end Iran's isolation suffered a setback in February with a radical resurgence triggered by British writer Salman Rushdie's novel, "The Satanic Verses," which the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini charged blasphemous.

With Khomeini's death June 3 and the ascendance of Rafsanjani's so-called pragmatists, the prospect of renewed moves to patch up differences with the West to obtain the technology and investment needed to exploit the country's huge gasfields.

While exploiting these reserves is a strategic economic option for Tehran as it struggles to rebuild and expand after the war, it is also a costly one which would involve extensive foreign investment and technology transfer.

Rafsanjani noted in the interview that the Iranian economy is in poor shape.

He confirmed estimates by analysts that industry is running at only 30-40 per cent of capacity "due to a shortage of materials, energy and parts," and that there has been massive waste of resources in the first decade of the Islamic revolution.

The most crucial decision, they say, is whether Iran will continue to base its economy on the long-term value of its oil with costly investment or focus on gas, which energy specialists believe will be in more global demand than oil in the decades to come.

Iran has rebuilt much of its oil industry, which was badly damaged in the eight-year war with Iraq, and is seeking to develop new fields.

But because of aging equipment

and high production costs, Iran's current oil output is around three million barrels a day.

Experts say it cannot produce any more than that economically. This also makes Iran prey to price fluctuations since it cannot compensate for price drops by boosting output.

Some industry specialists estimate that for every \$1 drop in the price of a barrel of oil, Iran's revenue from oil exports tumbles by \$2 billion a year.

Oil provides 90 per cent of Iran's foreign exchange earnings at present.

However, Iran has estimated natural gas reserves of 700 trillion cubic feet, or more than 20 trillion cubic metres, the second largest in the world after the Soviet Union. But these have been largely left untapped.

While exploiting these reserves is a strategic economic option for Tehran as it struggles to rebuild and expand after the war, it is also a costly one which would involve extensive foreign investment and technology transfer.

Rafsanjani noted in the interview that the Iranian economy is in poor shape.

He confirmed estimates by analysts that industry is running at only 30-40 per cent of capacity "due to a shortage of materials, energy and parts," and that there has been massive waste of resources in the first decade of the Islamic revolution.

The most analysts agree that the Iranian leadership must move fast on economic strategy.

Iran's population, currently pegged at around 50 million, is growing at a rate of around 3.5 per cent a year, one of the highest in the world.

By the year 2020, it will have swelled to an estimated 140 million.

Population growth pressures are already imposing an increasing burden on Iran.

Hypertension kills hyperinflation fighter

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — Businessman Nestor Rapanelli was sworn in Saturday as economy minister and pledged to continue the austerity programme of predecessor Miguel Roig, who died after just six days in office.

Argentina's fifth economy minister in less than four months, Rapanelli, 60, was sworn in by President Carlos Menem in the same government house room where a nightlong wake was held for Roig, victim of a heart attack Friday.

The new minister pledged to "continue the policies of Roig, which are the policies of Menem," in an effort to halt hyperinflation, revive a stagnant economy and end widespread hunger that produced food riots in May.

Rapanelli told reporters that a voluntary price accord with the business community will be signed Monday or Tuesday allowing the government to coordinate wage increases and halt triple-digit monthly inflation.

Roig, 68, had been negotiating the agreement at the time of his death. Taking time out to attend independence day ceremonies at the French embassy, he was struck in his car as he returned to work and taken to his downtown apartment, where he died, officials said.

Richest horse sale has 319 yearlings

LEXINGTON, Kentucky (R) — The last two foals sired by Northern Dancer will be among 319 yearlings colts and fillies offered beginning Monday in the annual two-day Keeneland July selected Yearling sale, the richest thoroughbred auction.

Northern Dancer was the racing industry's most popular stallion from the mid-1970s until his retirement last year at age 27. The 1964 Kentucky Derby winner's offspring commanded top prices on average in 10 of the past 11 Keeneland sales in the heart of Kentucky's Bluegrass region.

"We feel like we have a very nice group of yearlings and look forward to a solid sale," said Keeneland sales director Rogers Beasley.

"In addition to the usual number of European buyers, we expect more Japanese this year."

Most prominent among past foreign buyers have been the Maktoum family of Dubai, British betting pools magnate Robert Sangster and Greek shipping tycoon Stavros Niarchos.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?
A—If you think partner is seeking for aces, you need to brush up on your no trump bidding. Partner wants you to bid a slam if you are maximum for your opening, and whether your range is 15-17 or 16-18, this square hand with no intermediates does not qualify. Pass.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What action do you take?
A—Partner's rebid shows a one-suited hand, so don't bid three no trump with your single stopper in clubs. Raise to four hearts. Your two trumps are adequate support on this sequence and you have ruffing values. Any further move toward slam must come from partner.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?
A—Although you have a balanced hand of 13 points, the ruffing value in diamonds, a four-card major and fit for partner's suit weight heavily against a jump in no trump. Bid one heart.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?
A—Although you have shown a minimum no trump, partner is still looking for slam with his cue-bid. You have good prime values and solid filler for his suit—nothing to be ashamed of. Cooperate by cue-bidding five hearts.

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?
A—If you think partner is seeking for aces, you need to brush up on your no trump bidding. Partner wants you to bid a slam if you are maximum for your opening, and whether your range is 15-17 or 16-18, this square hand with no intermediates does not qualify. Pass.

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?
A—If you think partner is seeking for aces, you need to brush up on your no trump bidding. Partner wants you to bid a slam if you are maximum for your opening, and whether your range is 15-17 or 16-18, this square hand with no intermediates does not qualify. Pass.

Q.7—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?
A—If you think partner is seeking for aces, you need to brush up on your no trump bidding. Partner wants you to bid a slam if you are maximum for your opening, and whether your range is 15-17 or 16-18, this square hand with no intermediates does not qualify. Pass.

Q.8—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?
A—If you think partner is seeking for aces, you need to brush up on your no trump bidding. Partner wants you to bid a slam if you are maximum for your opening, and whether your range is 15-17 or 16-18, this square hand with no intermediates does not qualify. Pass.

Q.9—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?
A—If you think partner is seeking for aces, you need to brush up on your no trump bidding. Partner wants you to bid a slam if you are maximum for your opening, and whether your range is 15-17 or 16-18, this square hand with no intermediates does not qualify. Pass.

Q.10—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?
A—If you think partner is seeking for aces, you need to brush up on your no trump bidding. Partner wants you to bid a slam if you are maximum for your opening, and whether your range is 15-17 or 16-18, this square hand with no intermediates does not qualify. Pass.

Q.11—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?
A—If you think partner is seeking for aces, you need to brush up on your no trump bidding. Partner wants you to bid a slam if you are maximum for your opening, and whether your range is 15-17 or 16-18, this square hand with no intermediates does not qualify. Pass.

Q.12—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?
A—If you think partner is seeking for aces, you need to brush up on your no trump bidding. Partner wants you to bid a slam if you are maximum for your opening, and whether your range is 15-17 or 16-18, this square hand with no intermediates does not qualify. Pass.

Q.13—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?
A—If you think partner is seeking for aces, you need to brush up on your no trump bidding. Partner wants you to bid a slam if you are maximum for your opening, and whether your range is 15-17 or 16-18, this square hand with no intermediates does not qualify. Pass.

Q.14—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?
A—If you think partner is seeking for aces, you need to brush up on your no trump bidding. Partner wants you to bid a slam if you are maximum for your opening, and whether your range is 15-17 or 16-18, this square hand with no intermediates does not qualify. Pass.

Q.15—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?
A—If you think partner is seeking for aces, you need to brush up on your no trump bidding. Partner wants you to bid a slam if you are maximum for your opening, and whether your range is 15-17 or 16-18, this square hand with no intermediates does not qualify. Pass.

Q.16—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?
A—If you think partner is seeking for aces, you need to brush up on your no trump bidding. Partner wants you to bid a slam if you are maximum for your opening, and whether your range is 15-17 or 16-18, this square hand with no intermediates does not qualify. Pass.

Q.17—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?
A—If you think partner is seeking for aces, you need to brush up on your no trump bidding. Partner wants you to bid a slam if you are maximum for your opening, and whether your range is 15-17 or 16-18, this square hand with no intermediates does not qualify. Pass.

Q.18—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A76 ♦652 ♦AK63 ♦A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?
A—If you think partner is seeking for aces, you need to brush up on your no trump bidding. Partner wants you to bid a slam if you are maximum for your opening, and whether your range is 15-17 or 16-18, this square hand with no intermediates does not qualify. Pass.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

CHINA BEATS IRAN IN WORLD CUP — China beat Iran 2-0 in Shenyang Saturday to boost their chances of clinching a place in next year's World Cup finals in Italy. China, in its first ever victory against Iranians, maintained their unbeaten record in the Asian zone group five, which also includes Bangladesh and Thailand. The sides meet again in Iran at the end of the month. The match was due to be played in June but was postponed following the death of Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. (AP)

ITALY BEATS W. GERMANY TO TAKE GOLD — Sandro Cuomo collected four victories to lead Italy to a 9-4 gold medal triumph over West Germany in the men's team epee finals of the World Fencing Championship Saturday night. It was the first gold medal for the Italians in the 10-day event, which concluded with Cuomo's bout with Elmer Borman. West Germany finished with the silver medal and earlier in the day Cuba collected the bronze. Cuomo, 26, a policeman in Rome, had collected the silver medal in the men's individual epee event earlier in the week. Prior to the final bout, Cuomo's teammate, Angelo Mazzoni, had suffered a leg injury when the blade of West Germany's Thomas Gerull snapped and drove the ragged end of the epee into Mazzoni's thigh. There was a 10-minute delay while doctors attended the wound but Mazzoni went on to beat Gerull 5-1 to maintain Italy's lead over the West German team. (AP)

ALLOFS MOVES TO BORDEAUX — West German striker Klaus Allofs has been transferred from Marseille to Bordeaux, the French daily *L'Equipe* said Saturday. "I'm disappointed to leave Marseille after winning both the French Cup and championship," Allofs told *L'Equipe*. "But on the other hand I'm glad to join Bordeaux." Allofs, 33, joined Marseille from Cologne in 1987, but scored just seven goals as they clinched the double last season and his place looked under threat with the advent of \$6.8 million purchase Chris Waddle from England's Tottenham Hotspur. (R)

LAWSON SNATCHES POLE FOR FRENCH GRAND PRIX — American world champion Eddie Lawson Saturday snatched pole position for Sunday's French 500 CC motorcycle Grand Prix at the Le Mans, lapping the 4.4-km Bugatti circuit in one minute 42.33 seconds. Lawson, riding a Honda, clocked his best lap Saturday morning in the third official practice session to ensure pole position ahead of the Suzuki of compatriot Kevin Schwantz, second fastest in practice. American world champion leader Wayne Rainey will be in third position on the grid, in front of Australian Kevin Magee and France's Christian Sarron, who fractured a finger Friday when he fell during the second practice session. (R)

JOHNSON COULD LOSE WORLD TITLE RECORD — Ben Johnson could lose his world 100 metres title and world record under anti-doping laws drafted by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) in Vienna. "Any world, continental or national record and any title held by an athlete who admits having committed a doping offence will no longer stand," the IAAF said in a statement Saturday after an informal council meeting here. The proposals will be discussed by the full 23-member council in Barcelona on September 4 and presented for formal approval to the IAAF congress on September 5 and 6. IAAF president Primo Nebiolo said the meeting had not discussed the specific case of Canadian Johnson, who was stripped of his Olympic 100 metres gold in Seoul last year after a positive dope test. (R)

CARLSSON TIGHTENS GRIP ON RALLY — Sweden's Ingvar Carlsson tightened his grip on the New Zealand motor rally in Rotorua Sunday after a leading rival went out in a 200 kph crash. Carlsson's Mazda 323 fought off team mate Rod Milen in a day-long battle to extend his overnight lead to three minutes 11 seconds after the second of four legs. But his performance was overshadowed by the accident on a forest special stage from which Scotsman Jimmy McRae and co-driver Rob Arthur were lucky to escape unscathed. McRae, five times British champion, lost control of his Ford Sierra Cosworth while taking a left-hand curve flat out in sixth gear. "We then barrel-rolled down the road before ending up on our wheels," a shaken Arthur said. "When it rolled we knew it was going to hurt." But both men were unharmed, even though the Ford demolished several trees in the smash which ripped off the car's rear suspension. McRae had held fifth place after the Saturday's leg of the rally, the seventh round of the world championship. (R)

Smiley was 4-1 with a 1.99 ERA against the Giants prior to the game Saturday, conceding he was rattled by the windy conditions at Candlestick Park and poor defensive support. The Pirates made three errors.

"I had good stuff, but how can you pitch in this hell hole?" Smiley asked. "This wasn't baseball weather..."

Reds 5, Expos 3

CINCINNATI, Ohio (AP) —

British Grand Prix at Silverstone

Prost triumphs in Senna's woes

SILVERSTONE, England (R) — Alain Prost continued his remarkable mid-season revival Sunday when he stormed to victory in the British Grand Prix.

The Frenchman took full advantage of yet another misfortune which ended McLaren teammate Ayrton Senna's race on the 12th lap and went on to record his 38th Formula One triumph.

World champion Senna, suffering from gearbox problems, could not find third gear at Becketts and spun off into gravel from which he was unable to recover.

Prost, who had taunted Senna throughout the opening 11 laps, took the lead and, despite a strong challenge from Briton Nigel Mansell in a Ferrari and one pit stop for tyres, streaked away to a comfortable win.

Mansell came second, 19 seconds behind, with Italian Alessandro Nannini, in a Benetton, third.

GAP, France (R) — Jelle Nijdam of the Netherlands turned on the power again over the last 1,500 metres to win the longest stage left in the Tour De France Saturday.

Prost's win was his third in four races. It was also his third British Grand Prix success at super-fast Silverstone and increased his world championship lead over Senna to 20 points.

Prost, who leaves McLaren at the end of the season, has 47 points to Senna's 27.

Prost now has 47 points in the standings, while Senna remains his closest competitor with 27. Riccardo Patrese, an Italian who drives a Williams-Renault, remained third in the standings despite spinning into a wall on the 20th lap of the race, while Mansell now has 21 points.

Prost, who also won at Silverstone in 1983 and 1985, has placed either first or second in five races

Clark, who won the race five times in the early 1960s.

The race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in a recent series of disappointments for Senna, who won three of this year's opening four races but has not been among the leaders in the last four contests. Technical problems had bedeviled him in the last three races, and Sunday's race was another in

Cambodians filter back home secretly

By Adam Tanner
Reuter

SITE 2 REFUGEE CAMP, Thailand — Cambodian refugees, encouraged by changing political climate in their country, are beginning to return home secretly from this sprawling camp inside the Thai border, aid officials and camp residents said.

A small but increasing number are risking minefields and border fighting to return to villages they left during the murderous 1975-1979 Khmer Rouge rule and the Vietnamese intervention that followed.

"People have always been moving across to trade and see relatives," an aid official said. "But they have been coming back."

"In the last few months maybe 100 people have been going each night and the number who do not return is rising."

One aid official estimated that more than 1,000 had made the trip, leaving by foot often during the night and sometimes guided by soldiers of the Vietnamese-backed government in Phnom Penh, which encourages their return.

"We don't want to die in Thailand. This is not our birth-place," said Yaik Lonth, 58, as she prepared to set off on the hazardous journey for her village in Cambodia's northwestern Battambang province with her 76-year-old husband.

Their return was arranged by their grandson, a farmer who said he had come from Cambodia to convince them of improved conditions in their homeland.

Phnom Penh, preparing for

peace talks with opposing factions in Paris next week and anxious to undermine their political base along the frontier, has promised land and other incentives to returning refugees.

The clandestine border crossing is the only way for Cambodians to go home, as their leaders within the camp and the Thai government have told them to wait for a conclusive political settlement.

"They are political prisoners of their own leaders," one Western aid worker said.

Site 2 Refugee Camp, with 140,000 people, is the biggest camp along the frontier. Each camp is controlled by one of the three opposition guerrilla groups. The total population at the camps is nearly 300,000.

The refugees are classified as "displaced persons" and as such are not entitled to resettlement in a third country under U.N. arrangements.

Despite the official restrictions on departures, there are big gaps in the wire fence around the camp of thatched bamboo houses. Muddy paths lead to the border just a kilometre away.

Aid workers said several factors combined to persuade some of the refugees to leave.

In April Vietnam announced it would withdraw its army from Cambodia by the end of September.

In the same month Phnom Penh brought in popular reforms to its state-run system, allowing private ownership of property, guaranteeing tenure of farmland and opening up private enterprise.



Living conditions in Cambodian refugee camps in Thailand are terrible and aggravated by monsoon downpours (File photo)

Von Karajan, 81, dies

ANIF, Austria (R) — Austrian conductor Herbert von Karajan, a dominant figure of post-war classical music, died Sunday at the age of 81, police said.

A police spokesman said Karajan died at his home near Salzburg but the spokesman did not know the cause of death.

Karajan resigned as director of the Berlin Philharmonic in April after over 30 years in the post. He was the guiding spirit of the Salzburg Music Festival.

Born like Mozart in Salzburg, Karajan was an infant prodigy at the piano before taking up the conductor's baton.

He made more than 900 albums, of which just the 330 made for Deutsche grammophon have sold more than 115 million copies.

His imperious manner and single-mindedness soured relations with many singers, musicians, orchestras and opera houses. But other top performers and employers queued up to work with him knowing lucrative recording contracts would follow.

Karajan's domineering and conservative control over the Salzburg festival had been a recent focus on widespread criticism about him in Austria.

He had been due to open the annual summer festival July 27, conducting the Vienna Philharmonic in Verdi's "un ballo in maschera," staged by British film director John Schlesinger.

Karajan had been angered by plans to reform management of the world renowned festival and threatened to quit work there altogether if its conservative artistic orientation was upended.



Herbert von Karajan

He resigned from the festival board in August 1988 after an illness but retained a veto over virtually all of its productions.

"I am old enough to stop, if one no longer wants to work in the way I see as correct," he told an Austrian newspaper about the reform proposal.

The festival board adopted the proposal late last month and has begun looking for a new president to replace Albert Moser, who is loyal to Karajan and due to retire in 1991. Karajan had not commented publicly on the board action.

A great enthusiast of high technology, he piloted his own plane, had a fleet of expensive cars and gained a helicopter licence at the age of 75. Karajan compared the experience of music with driving fast along a curvy road.

"You feel the rhythm of the engine and the journey," he once said. "It is the same in music. Rhythm is all. That is what I strive for."

Violence in Sri Lanka boosts Gandhi's hand

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has won unexpected support from critics of his policy towards Sri Lanka after the assassination of two of the island's most well-known moderate Tamil leaders.

Such support is expected to harden after the deaths of two members of an Indian peace-keeping force (IPKF) in a clash with Sri Lankan troops in the north of the island.

The clash was the first between the two sides as Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa increased pressure on Gandhi to withdraw the 45,000-strong IPKF from the island by July 31.

Gandhi received a boost for his policy towards Sri Lanka when the chief minister of India's Tamil Nadu state condemned the killing of Appalai Amirthalingam and Vettivelu Yugeswaran in Colombo on Thursday.

Amirthalingam was the leader of the moderate Tamil United Liberation Front.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Muthuvel Karunanidhi said: "To think that the killing of these leaders was the only way to achieve one's goals and dreams is totally unacceptable to us."

His state has some 50 million Tamils and once sheltered Velupillai Prabhakaran, head of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), which Karunanidhi holds responsible for the killings, and engaged the IPKF in a guerrilla war.

The LTTE is trying to silence the moderates and it is left to the IPKF to protect Tamils," said Chandrasenan Chevanayagam, a spokesman for Sri Lankan Tamil exiles based in the southern Indian city of Madras.

Chevanayagam, who has in the past criticised Gandhi's Sri Lanka policy, said: "Things are moving to a climax with the possibility of clashes breaking out between LTTE and Sri Lankan troops on one side and the IPKF and other Tamil groups."

The deaths of nearly 1,000 IPKF men is one of the issues the opposition will use to attack Gandhi at the polls.

Political analysts say that any recurrence of clashes like the one that took place on Thursday between the IPKF and Sri Lankan troops and the assassinations could swing public support for Gandhi in general elections due this year.

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The IPKF was sent to Sri Lanka to disarm Tamil rebels under an accord Gandhi signed with Premadasa's predecessor in 1987. It ran into trouble soon after the signing when the LTTE refused to give up their weapons and engaged the IPKF in a guerrilla war.

The LTTE is trying to silence the moderates and it is left to the IPKF to protect Tamils," said Chandrasenan Chevanayagam, a spokesman for Sri Lankan Tamil exiles based in the southern Indian city of Madras.

Chevanayagam, who has in the past criticised Gandhi's Sri Lanka policy, said: "Things are moving to a climax with the possibility of clashes breaking out between LTTE and Sri Lankan troops on one side and the IPKF and other Tamil groups."

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11 killed, 120 hurt in Soviet Georgia

MOSCOW (R) — A renewed flare-up of ethnic violence in the Abkhazia region of Soviet Georgia has killed 11 people and injured more than 120, the official news agency TASS reported Sunday.

TASS said the clashes broke out Saturday night between crowds of Georgians and Abkhazians in the regional capital, Tbilisi, in April. Troops finally broke up the gathering, killing 20 people.

TASS said Georgian Communist Party chief Givi Gumaridze, appointed after the Tbilisi killings, was in Sukhumi with other members of the republican leadership.

"Those involved in the fighting used stones, clubs, knives and firearms. According to the information we have, 11 people were killed and 127 hospitalised," TASS said.

Tensions have been running high for several months in Abkhazia — which has the status of an autonomous republic within Georgia — triggered by demands of Abkhazians for a branch of a Georgian university

to secede and be upgraded to a full Soviet republic.

Georgian anger over the Abkhazia issue was one factor behind huge nationalist demonstrations in the Georgian capital, Tbilisi, in April. Troops finally

broke up the gathering, killing 20 people.

TASS said Georgian Communist Party chief Givi Gumaridze, appointed after the Tbilisi killings, was in Sukhumi with other members of the republican leadership.

"A joint (party and government) declaration calls on the people to show reason, decency and responsibility and to cooperate with the party, government and law and order authorities to stabilise the situation," TASS said.

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